

Service Date: August 20, 2002

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

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IN THE MATTER OF	)	UTILITY DIVISION
LINCOLN TELEPHONE CO.,	)	
Request for Protective Order,	)	DOCKET NO. N2002.7.85
Annual Report Schedule 27	)	ORDER NO. 6436

ANNUAL REPORT GENERIC PROTECTIVE ORDER

On June 28, 2002, Lincoln Telephone Company, Inc. (LTC), filed before the Public Service Commission (PSC) a request for protective order governing access to LTC's PSC annual report schedule 27 (compensation of top 10 Montana-based employees). LTC argues the information is confidential in accordance with constitutionally protected privacy rights, *Art. II, § 10, Mont. Const.*, and is therefore subject to protection from uncontrolled disclosure. On July 26, 2002, the PSC issued a public notice of LTC's request. No comments or objections were received.

The PSC determines that the identified information could be confidential and subject to protection from public disclosure pursuant to Art. II, § 10, Mont. Const. Therefore, the PSC grants LTC's request and hereby orders that information submitted in accordance with this order be treated as "confidential information" under the terms of this order and PSC protective order rules, ARM 38.2.5001 through 38.2.5030. This generic annual report protective order is effective for a period of 4 years, at which time LTC may apply for an extension.

Done and dated this 6th day of August, 2002, by a vote of 4-1.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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GARY FELAND, Chairman

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JAY STOVALL, Vice Chairman

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BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner  
Voting to Dissent

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MATT BRAINARD, Commissioner

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BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Rhonda J. Simmons  
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

NOTE: There is no reconsideration of the granting of a protective order. There is a procedure to challenge the provider's claim of confidentiality. See ARM 38.2.5008.